



# FEMA



Prepared by  
*Todd Beal*

# FEMA Region 6 Weather Threat Briefing

Tuesday, March 12, 2019

**Disclaimer:** The purpose of this briefing is to provide a **Regional** weather threat assessment and is meant as a general overview. County/Parish decision makers should consult their local NWS forecast offices for the latest detailed, local weather information.

To find your local NWS forecast office, go to [www.weather.gov/srh](http://www.weather.gov/srh).

# Summary of the Upcoming Week



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## Today

- **Enhanced risk area for severe storms across SE NM/W TX and into the Big Bend Region.**
  - **Damaging winds are the primary hazards. Isolated large hail and a few tornadoes also possible.**
- **Winter weather conditions across the higher terrain of W and N NM. Travel impacts expected.**
- **Slight risk of excessive rainfall and flash flooding across OK.**

## Wednesday

- **Slight risk for strong/severe storms over AR and N LA with heavy rainfall/flash flooding possible over E AR and NE LA**
- **Winter weather impacts continue across the higher terrain of W and N NM.**
- **Strong winds across western half of FEMA 6.**

## Thursday

- **Marginal risk of severe storms over extreme E AR and E LA.**

## Friday – Saturday

- **No significant weather impacts.**

## River Flooding

- **Moderate to Major flooding will continue this week and into next week on the Mississippi River at many locations in E AR/E LA.**
- **The MS Flooding is slightly higher than 2016 & 1997.**
- **Rainfall over the next 5 days may cause new minor river flooding across portions of N and E TX this week.**

# FEMA Region 6 Threat Matrix

Mar 12, 2019 – Mar 16, 2019



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DAY / THREAT	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Severe Storms	SE NM into WTX	AR/N LA	E AR/E LA		
		SE & ETX/LA			
Heavy Rain / Flash Flooding	OK	E AR/NE LA			
	TX				
Winter Weather	N and W NM	N and W NM			
Strong Winds		NM/WTX/ W and C OK			
Fire Weather					
River Flooding	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA	E AR/E LA
	N & ETX	N & ETX	N & ETX	N & ETX	

	No Weather Threats Expected
	Very Common – Happens Often
	Common – Happens Frequently
	Uncommon – A Few Times a Year
	Rare – Once Every 1-5 Years
	Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years

*\*Threat levels are based on FEMA Region 6 criteria.  
State or local threat level criteria may differ.\*  
For more details on the colors in the threat matrix refer to the last slide in this briefing.*

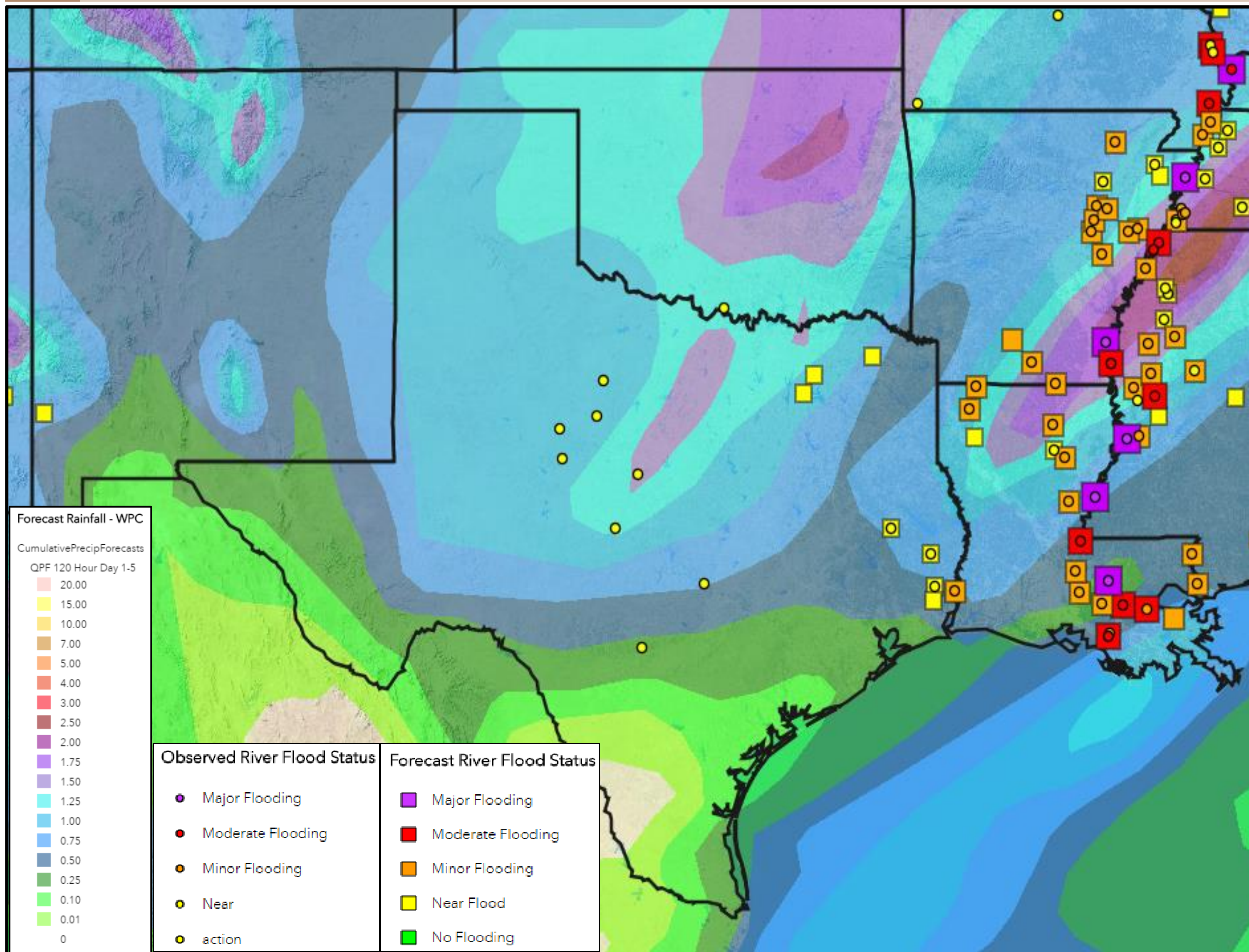


# 5-Day Precipitation Forecast & River Flood Status



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*Note: Even though the image displays 5 days of forecasted rainfall, river forecasts only include 1-2 days of rainfall*



**Moderate to Major flooding will continue this week on the Mississippi River at many locations in E AR/E LA. The MS Flooding is slightly higher than 2016 & 1997.**

**Rainfall over the next 5 days may cause new minor river flooding across portions of N and E TX this week.**

## Arkansas

- **All rivers have crested except the MS River.**
- **Mississippi River at Osceola and near Arkansas City remain at major flood, but have all crested.**
- **Mississippi River near Greenville, MS is in moderate and is currently cresting right at the threshold for major flood stage.**

## Louisiana

- **MS River at Baton Rouge is at Major flood. Shipping and industrial activities are significantly affected. The city of Baton Rouge is protected by levees at the currently forecast levels.**
- **MS River at Vicksburg and Natchez are at major flood stage with homes and roads impacted.**

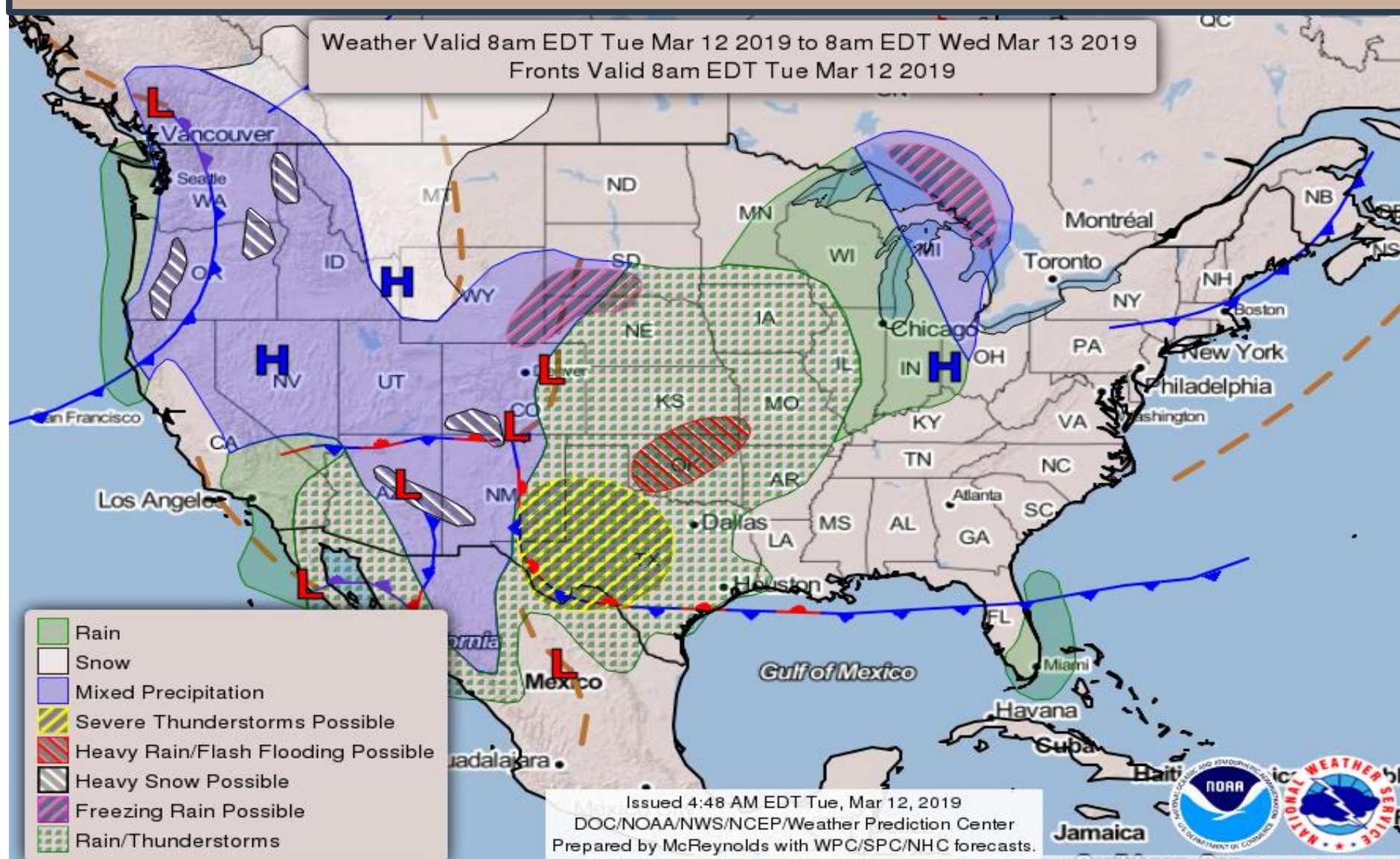


# Today's Weather

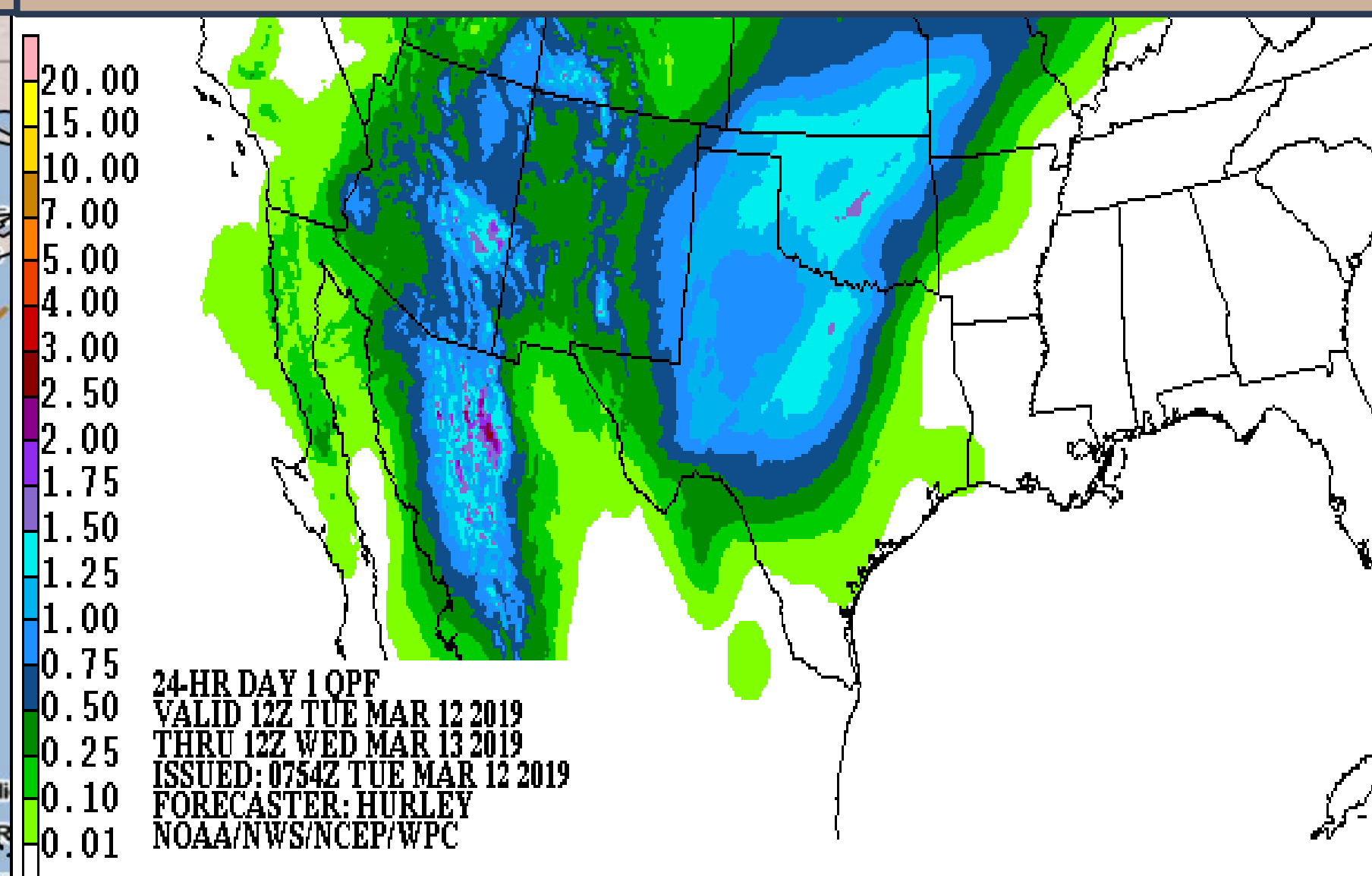


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## Forecast Chart



## Forecast Rainfall

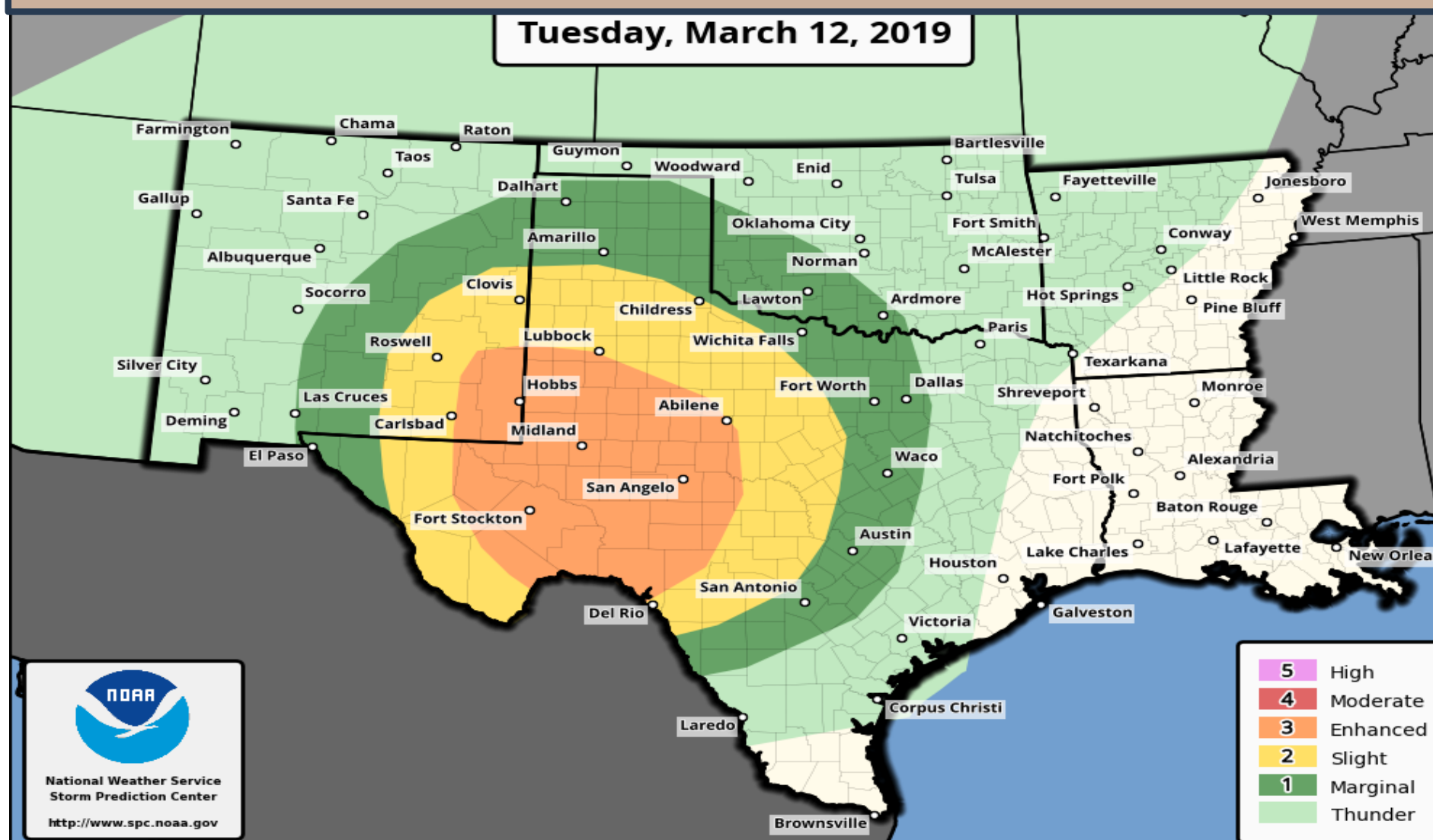


**Enhanced risk area for severe storms across SE NM into TX.**

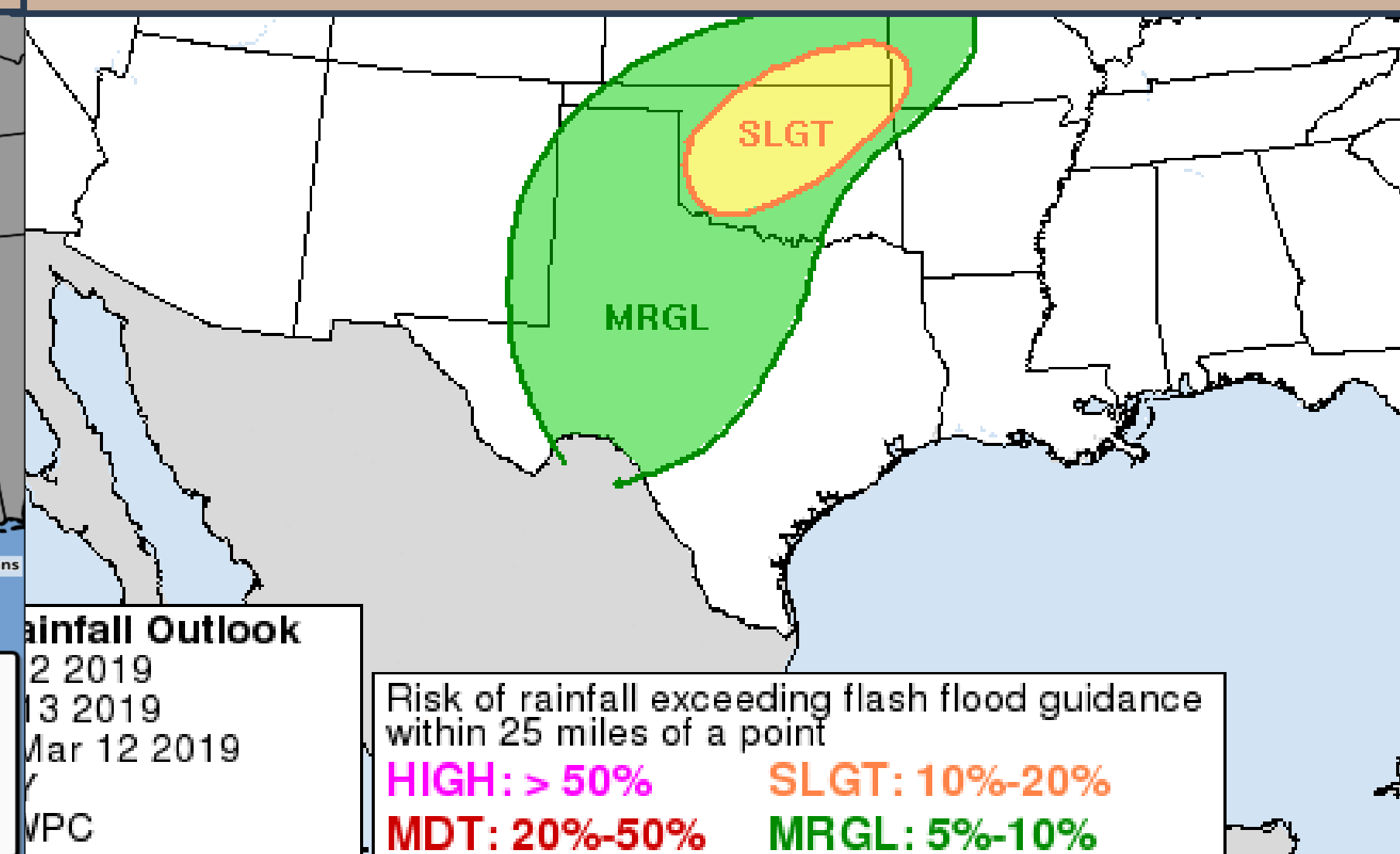
**Slight risk of excessive rainfall and flash flooding over OK**

**Winter weather across the higher terrain of W and N NM. Travel impacts expected.**

## Severe Weather Outlook



## Excessive Rainfall Outlook





# Watches, Warnings, and Advisories



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## Fire Weather



Graphic Created

## Severe Weather & Flooding

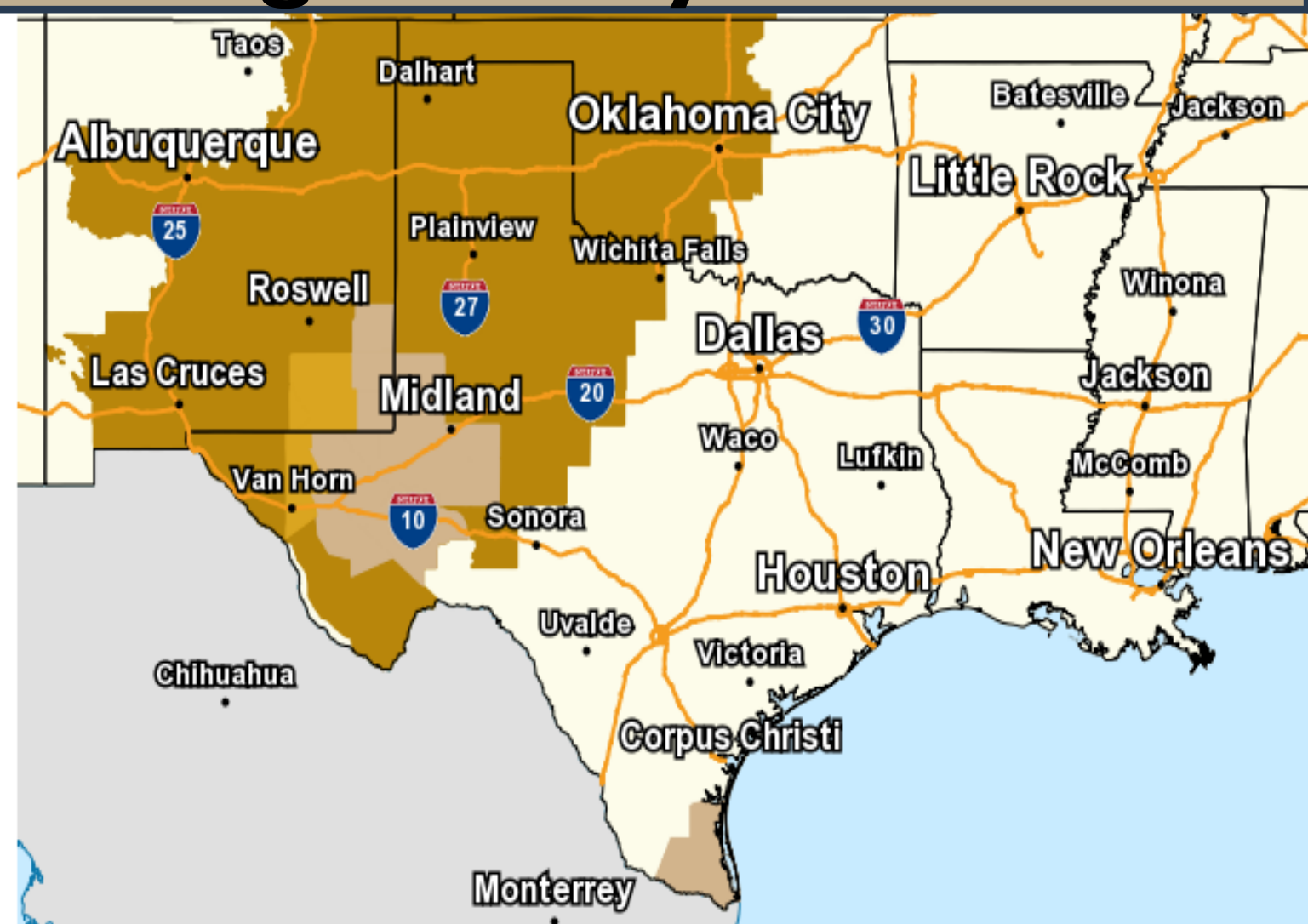


Graphic Created

**High wind watches and warnings across NM/TX/OK**

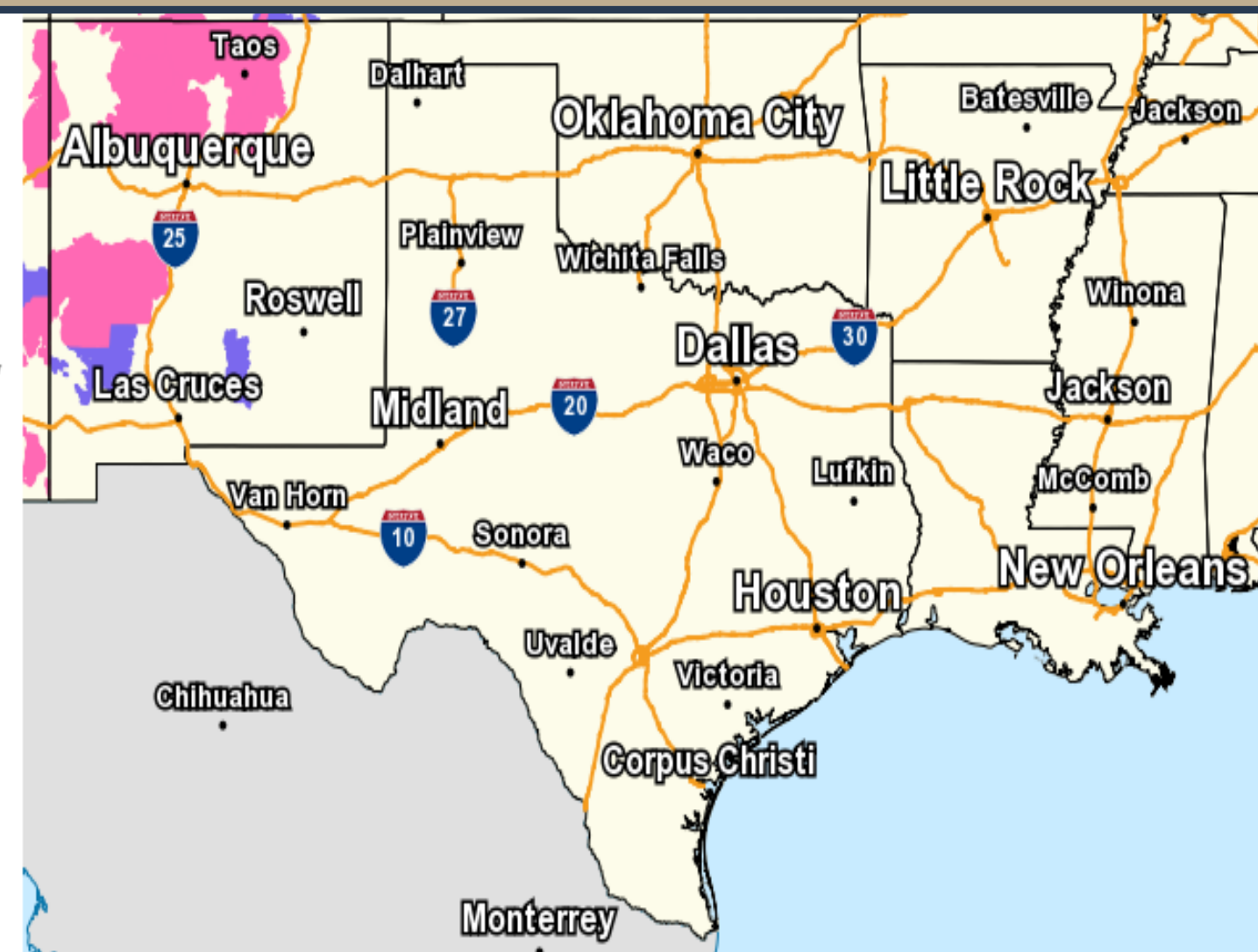
**Winter storm warning over the higher terrain of W and N NM**

## Strong & Gusty Winds



Graphic Created

## Winter Weather



Graphic Created

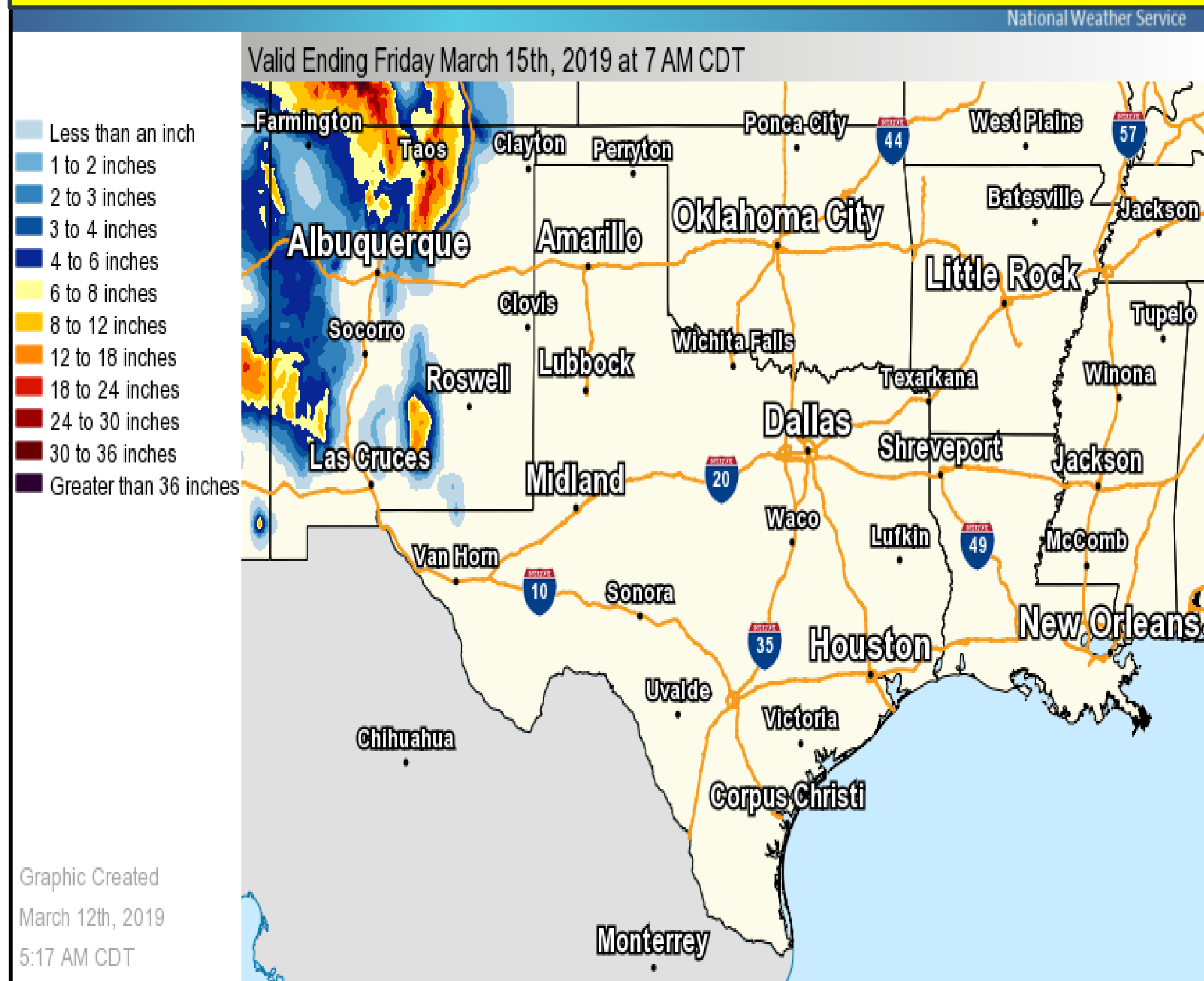
# Winter Weather

Note: Snow and Ice Accumulations Days 1 through 3

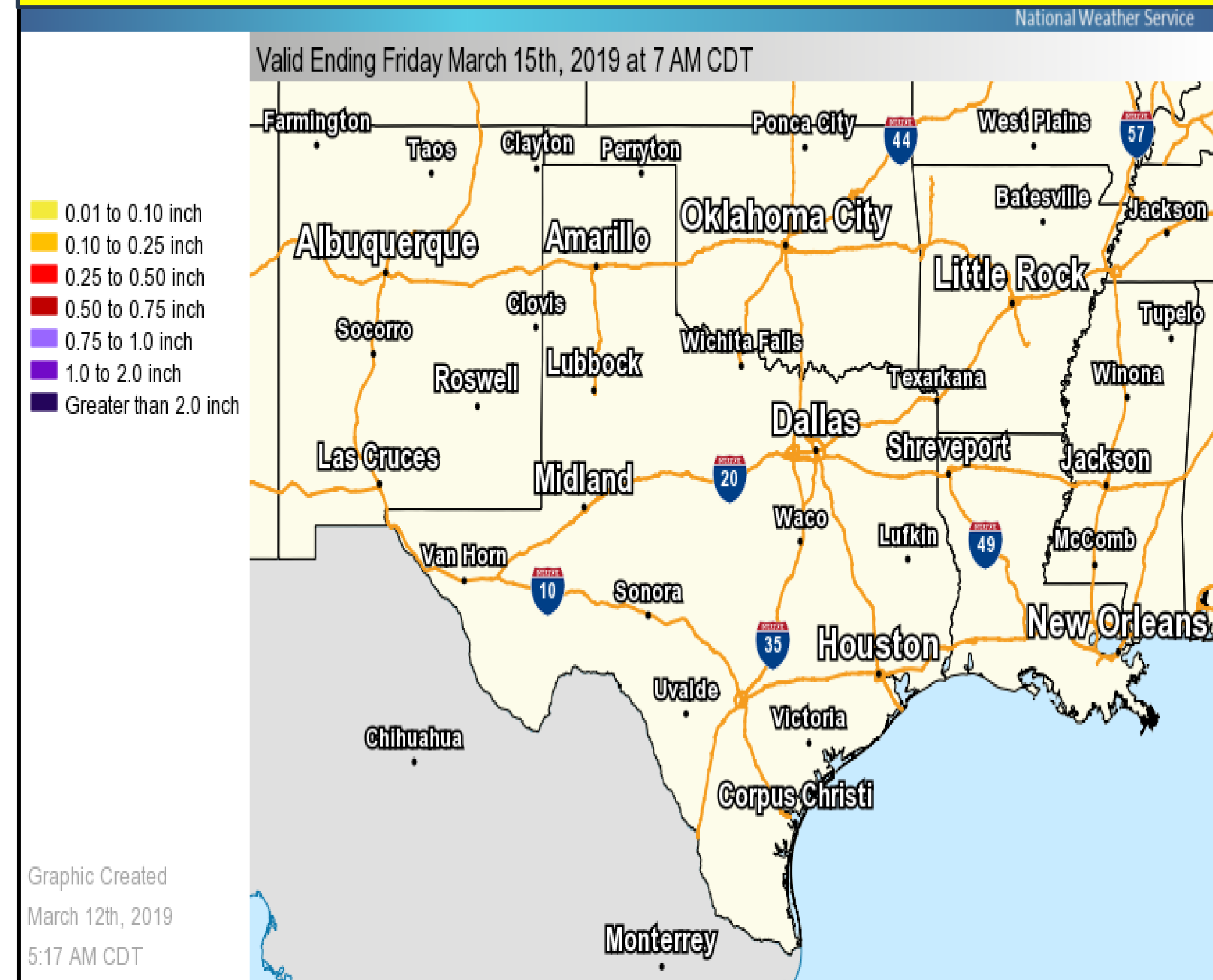


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## Forecast Snowfall Amounts



## Forecast Ice Amounts





# Tomorrow's Weather



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## Forecast Chart

## Forecast Rainfall

Heavy rain/flash flooding  
across E AR/NE LA.

Slight risk of severe storms  
over AR and N LA.

Marginal risk area of  
strong/severe thunderstorms  
across E/SE TX into LA.

## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook

Wednesday, March 13, 2019

### Rainfall Outlook

13 2019  
4 2019  
Mar 12 2019

WPC

Risk of rainfall exceeding flash flood guidance  
within 25 miles of a point

HIGH: > 50%

SLGT: 10%-20%

MDT: 20%-50%

MRGL: 5%-10%





# Thursday's Weather

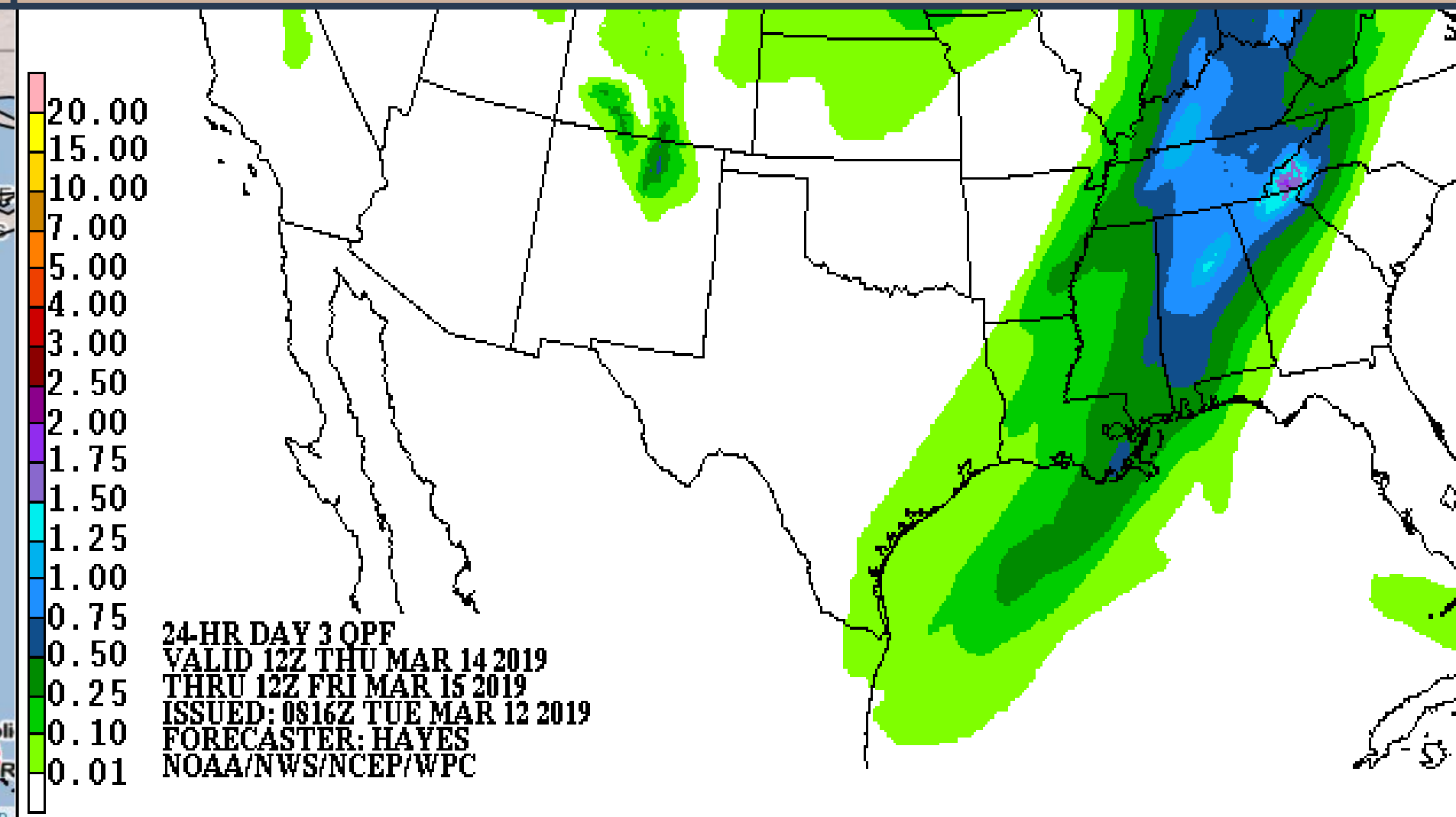
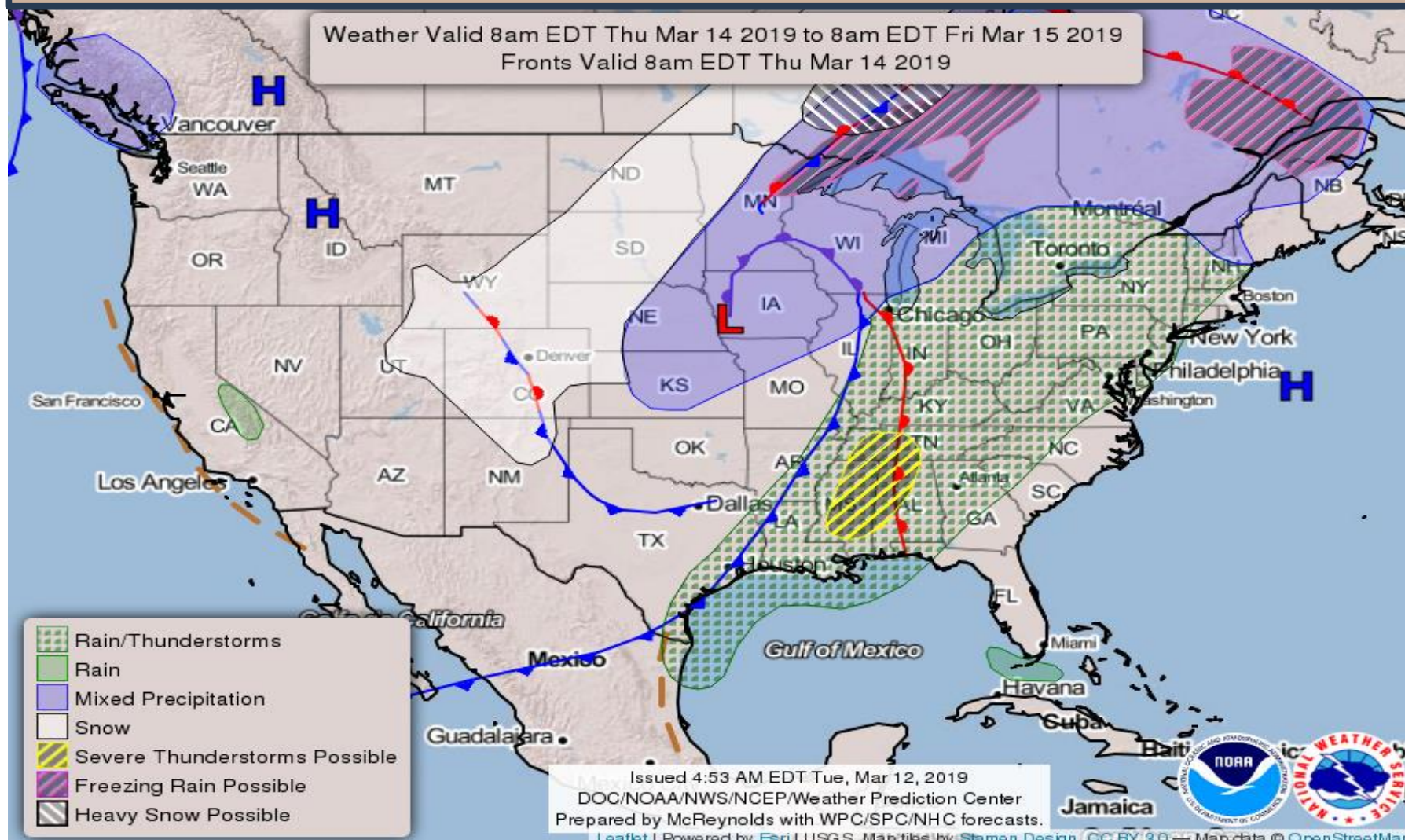


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## Forecast Chart

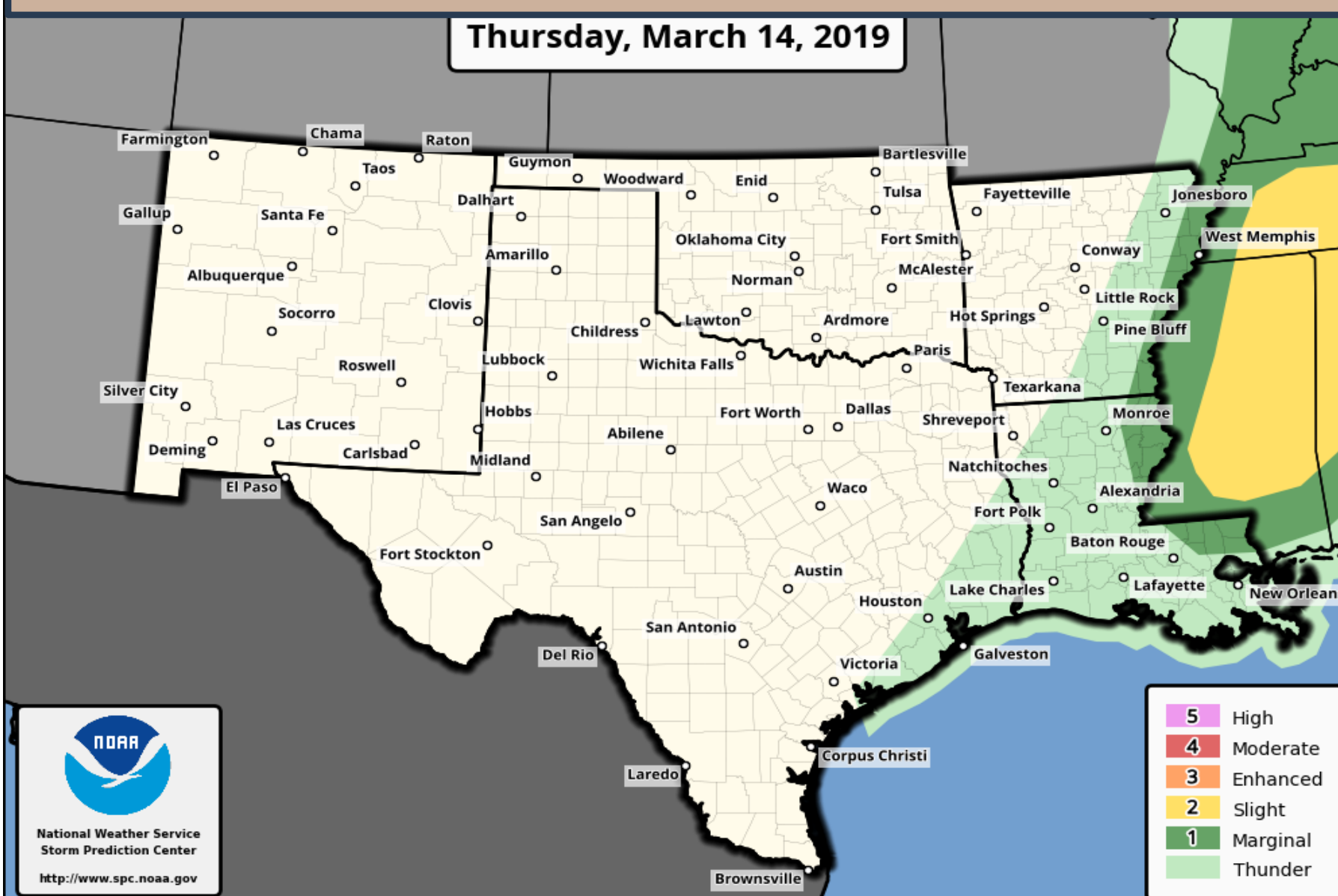
## Forecast Rainfall

**Marginal risk of strong to severe storms over extreme E AR and E LA**



## Severe Weather Outlook

## Excessive Rainfall Outlook



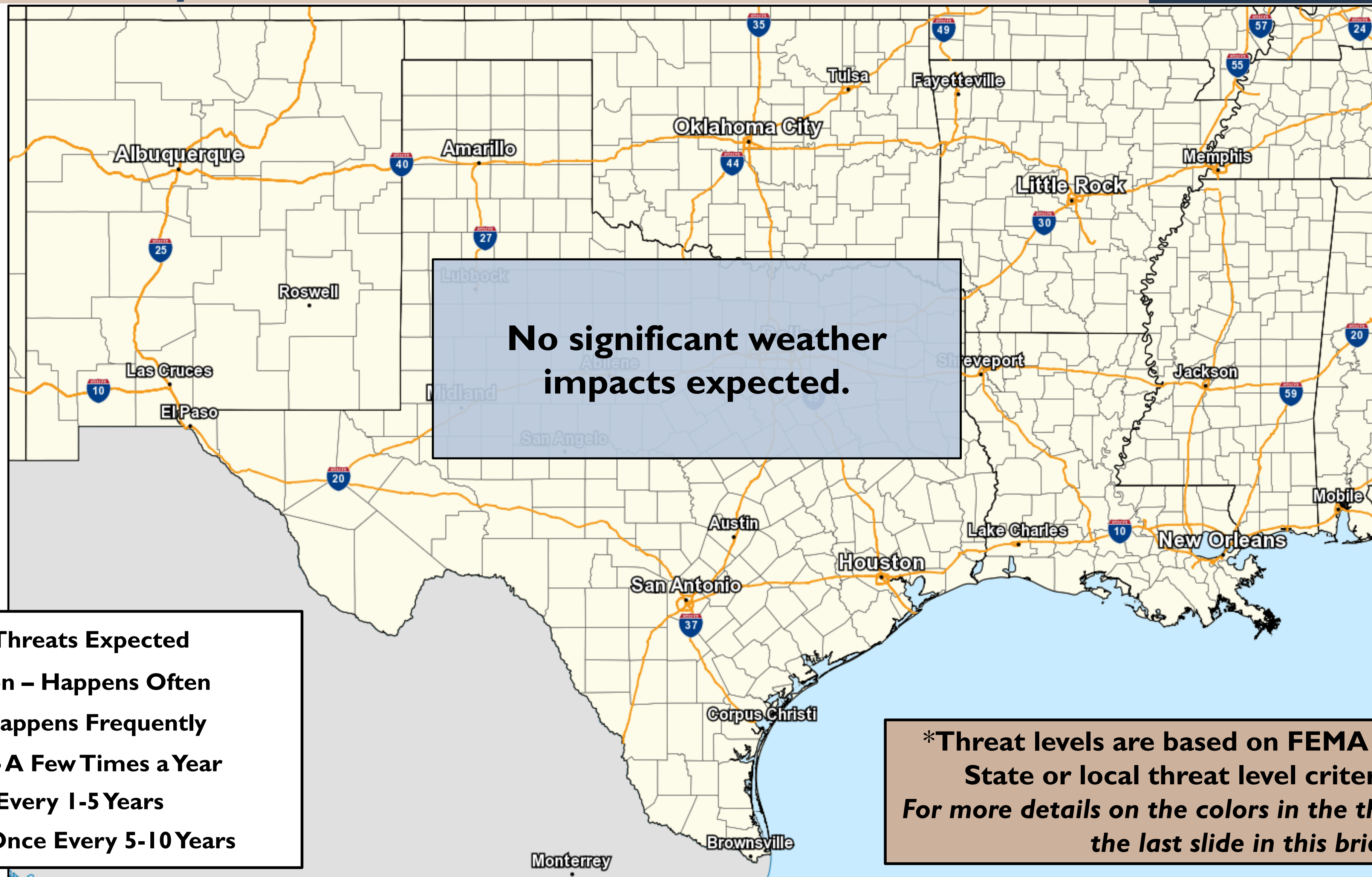


# Days 4-5 Weather Hazards

Friday – Saturday



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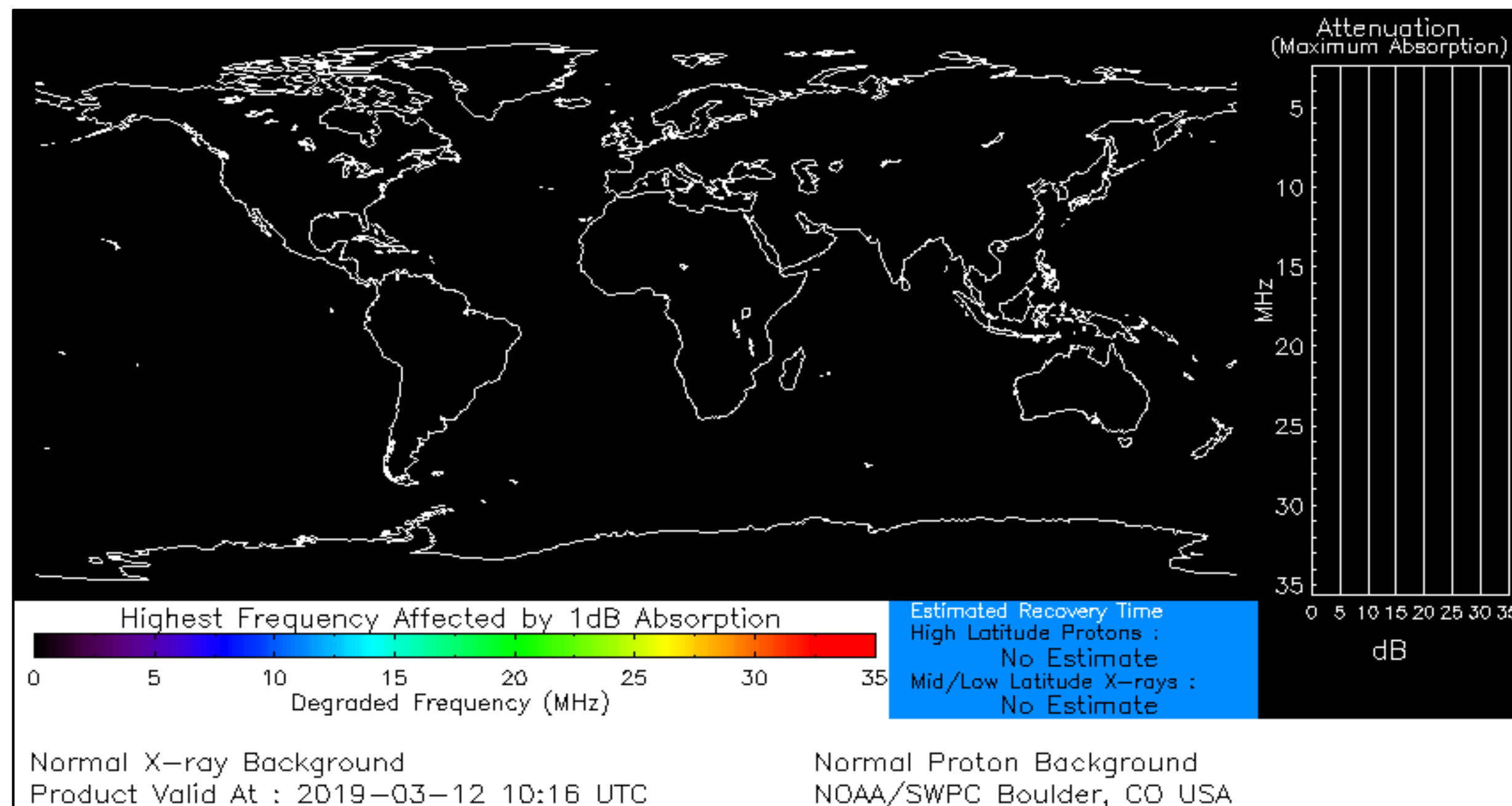


# Space Weather 3-Day Forecast



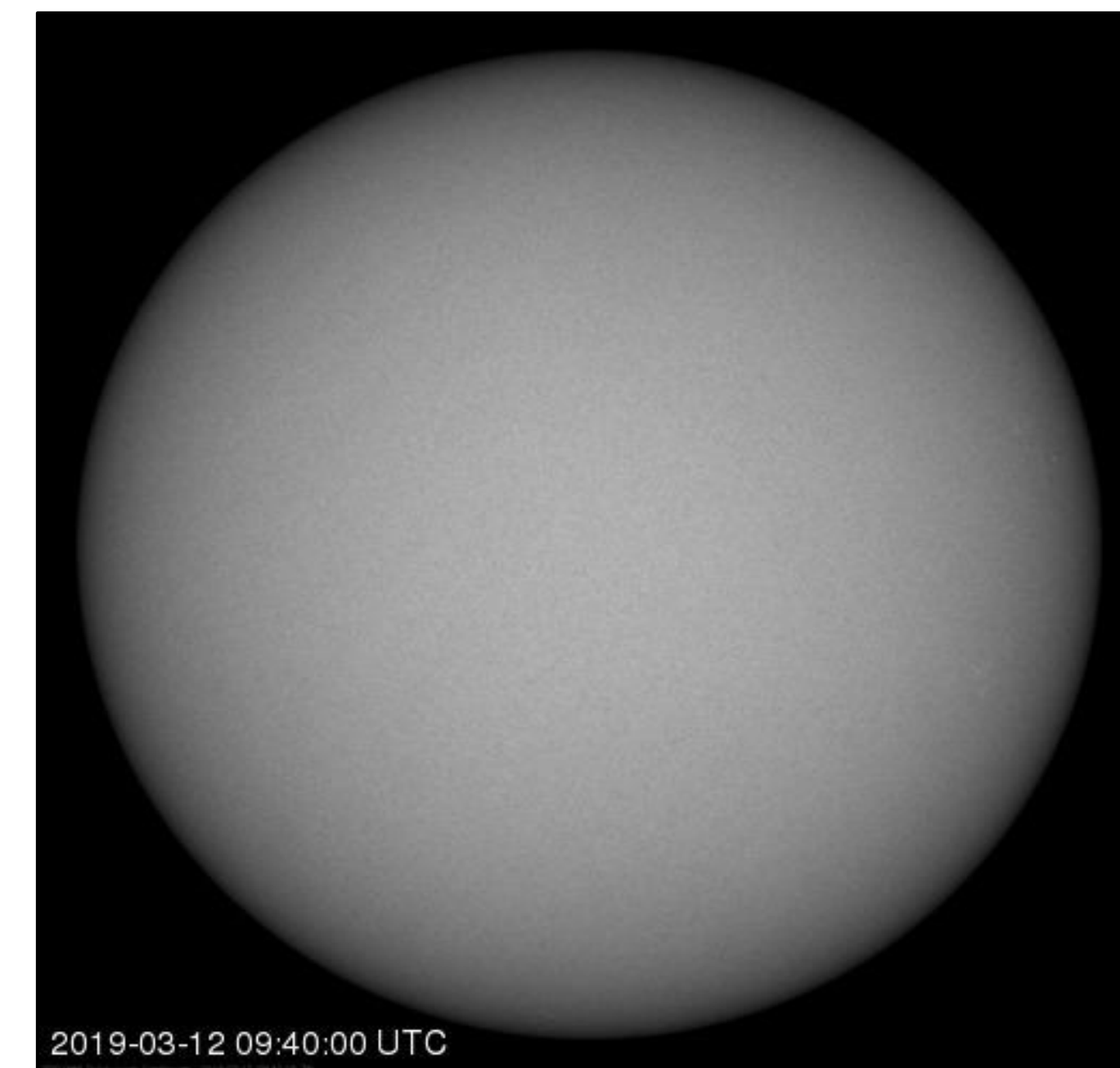
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	Tuesday	Wednesday	Wednesday
Geomagnetic Storms	Unsettled to Active (Max Kp = 4)	Unsettled (Max Kp = 3)	Unsettled to Active (Max Kp = 4)
Solar Radiation Storm (S1-S5)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R1-R2)	1%	1%	1%
Radio Blackout (R3-R5)	1%	1%	1%



[Click here for a Description of the Space Weather Storm Scales](#)

[Click here for the Latest 3-Day Space Weather Forecast Text](#)







# For more information, please contact:

**National Weather Service**  
Southern Region Headquarters  
Regional Operations Center  
Fort Worth, TX

Phone: (682) 703-3747

E-mail: [sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)

Web: <http://www.weather.gov/srh>





Weather “Threat” Matrix			
Color	Definition	Criteria	Example(s)
Green	<b>Very Common</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Little Inconvenience to Daily Routines	Severe: Marginal Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over localized areas Tropical: None Fire Weather: No Watches/Warnings, fuel moisture above 10% or green up active	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Thunderstorms expected over LA this afternoon; a few may produce winds to knock down a few trees</li> <li>Something that happens almost every day in a particular season such as <u>seabreeze</u> storms in coastal TX</li> </ul>
Yellow	<b>Somewhat Common – Happens Frequently</b> Safety: Rarely a Direct Threat to Life and Property Impact Potential: Typically Results in Some Inconvenience to Daily Life	Severe: Slight Risk from SPC Flooding: Nuisance flooded expected for a widespread area, or Minor flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A weak tropical wave expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire Weather: Red Flag Watches/Warnings and/or SPC outlines enhanced or critical fire outlook	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3 inches of rainfall expected over central AR today and tonight; some minor (brief) street flooding possible</li> <li>Scattered severe storms possible, one or two tornadoes expected, along with reports of strong winds/wind damage and ~1” hail</li> </ul>
Orange	<b>Uncommon – A Few Times a Year</b> Safety: Often Threatening to Life and Property, Some Damage Unavoidable Impact Potential: Typically Results in Minor Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Enhanced Risk from SPC Flooding: Minor flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations), or Moderate flooding expected over isolated areas Tropical: A Tropical Storm expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Critical fire outlook for more than 2 consecutive days, Warnings for 2 or more consecutive days, D3-D4 drought conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A snow/sleet mix is expected to move through or near the DFW area tomorrow morning; travel impacts likely</li> <li>Numerous severe storms possible, a few tornadoes possible along with several reports of wind damage along with damaging hail</li> <li>Some large fires reported, burn bans advertised, critical conditions expected</li> </ul>
Red	<b>Rare – Once every 1-5 Years</b> Safety: Extensive Property Damage Likely, Life Saving Actions Also will be Needed Impact Potential: Will likely result in Large Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: Moderate Risk from SPC Flooding: Moderate flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Hurricane expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large areas of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 1 hurricane will be moving towards the NW Gulf in the next few days</li> <li>Widespread severe storms likely, strong tornadoes, widespread wind damage, and destructive hail</li> <li>Large fires ongoing throughout the area with critical fire weather conditions expected to continue</li> </ul>
Purple	<b>Very Rare – Once Every 5-10 Years</b> Safety: Property Damage Unavoidable, Immediate Action to Save Life will be Needed Impact Potential: Typically Results in Long-Lived Widespread Major Disruption to Daily Life	Severe: High Risk from SPC Flooding: Major flooding expected over a widespread area (including urban locations) Tropical: A Major Hurricane (Cat3 or greater) expected to move towards or near any coastline Fire: Large area of critical conditions for 2 or more days, Warnings for 3 or more days, Long term (months) of severe to extreme drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A Category 4 hurricane is headed towards the SE LA; major storm surge, flooding and damaging winds anticipated to begin tomorrow</li> <li>Widespread severe storms expected, tornado outbreak probable with long-lived, very widespread and particularly intense storms</li> </ul>

**Criteria for the color codes in this briefing is to the left, please provide any feedback to**

**[sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov](mailto:sr-srh.roc@noaa.gov)**